

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: John A. Russo
City Manager

Date: January 17, 2012

Re: Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the City Manager to Support the Bicycle
Friendly Community Application Submitted to the League of American
Bicyclists

BACKGROUND

The City of Alameda, with its 19 miles of on-street bikeways, 16 miles of bike paths, and more than 800 dedicated bicycle parking spaces, is a community that recognizes the importance of bicycling as a transportation mode for commuting and recreation. In November 2010, the City Council approved an Update to the 1999 Bicycle Master Plan to continue to guide the development of future bicycle facilities in the city. BikeAlameda and the City of Alameda, through its Public Works Department, propose to submit an application to the League of American Bicyclists (League) to recognize Alameda as a Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC).

DISCUSSION

The League's BFC Program recognizes communities that have made it a priority to enhance bicycling as a transportation mode. The BFC application is an audit of a community's efforts to create a bicycling culture. The audit reviews engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, evaluation, and planning efforts for bicycling. Each application is reviewed by national experts and local cyclists to determine whether the community should receive a BFC designation. The League recognizes communities at one of four award levels: platinum, gold, silver, or bronze. Other nearby communities that have received recognition include Davis (platinum), San Francisco (gold), Palo Alto (gold), Stanford University (gold), Sacramento (silver), Santa Cruz (silver), Cupertino (bronze), Oakland (bronze), San Jose (bronze), and Santa Clara (bronze). If successful, the League will issue a press release, and will present an award and two highway-quality street signs at a ceremony in Alameda. The League requires that the local jurisdiction support the BFC Program application.

Receiving a BFC designation would formally recognize Alameda for its high-quality bicycling infrastructure and programs, as well as its ongoing efforts to improve these facilities by providing well-engineered bicycle facilities, creating new places to ride, educating motorists and cyclists on the rules of the road, and encouraging bicycling as

an effective way to increase physical activity, improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion, and manage climate change and obesity.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The staff time to submit the application is funded through the Measure B Bike/Pedestrian funding for ongoing transportation operations. This application will not impact the General Fund.

MUNICIPAL CODE/POLICY DOCUMENT CROSS REFERENCE

This action does not affect the Alameda Municipal Code. The application directly supports General Plan Objective 4.3.3.a, "Maintain and implement the Bicycle Master Plan with regard to physical system improvements (especially the identified priority projects), as well as programs and policies relating to encouragement, education and enforcement."

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In accordance with the California Environmental Act (CEQA), the application is Categorically Exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(c), Existing Facilities.

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to support the Bicycle Friendly Community application submitted to the League of American Bicyclists.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew T. Naclerio
Public Works Director

By,



Gail Payne
Transportation Coordinator

CITY OF ALAMEDA RESOLUTION NO. _____

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUPPORT THE BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO THE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS

WHEREAS, the League of American Bicyclists' Bicycle Friendly Community Program inspires communities to improve conditions and opportunities for bicycling; and

WHEREAS, Alameda is known as a bicycle-friendly community with its 19 miles of on-street bikeways, 16 miles of paths and over 800 bicycle parking spaces; and

WHEREAS, the Bicycle Friendly Community Program would formally recognize Alameda for its high quality bicycling infrastructure and programs and for its continuing efforts to improve them; and

WHEREAS, Alameda desires to support the Bicycle Friendly Community Program application submittal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Alameda City Council that the City Manager is authorized to support the Bicycle Friendly Community Application submitted to the League of American Bicyclists.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this resolution, and any accompanying supporting materials, shall be forwarded to the League of American Bicyclists as part of the Bicycle Friendly Community Program Application.

* * * * *

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly adopted and passed by the Council of the City of Alameda in a regular meeting assembled on the 17th day of January, 2012, by the following vote to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSENTIONS:

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 18th day of January 2012.

Lara Weisiger, City Clerk
City of Alameda

Resolution #5-D CC
01-17-12

Approved as to Form

City Attorney